PATENT IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Thomas A. Figura

Serial No.:

10/004,661

Filed:

December 4, 2001

Title:

Docket: 303.645US3 METHOD AND STRUCTURE FOR IMPROVED ALIGNMENT TOLERANCE

IN MULTIPLE, SINGULARIZED PLUGS

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Examiner: Yennhu Huynh

Group Art Unit: 2813

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add the following new claims:

(New) An integrated circuit comprising:

a plurality of surface structures, each of the surface structures having a top surface; an inner plug formed between a pair of surface structures among the plurality of surface structures, and formed under the top surface of each surface structure of the pair of surface structures;

an inner electrical contact formed on the inner plug;

a pair of outer plugs, each outer plug of the pair of outer plugs having an upper portion formed over at least a portion of the top surface of one surface structure of the pair of surface structures; and

a pair of spacers formed between the pair of outer plugs and the inner plug and the inner electrical contact.

(New) The integrated circuit of claim 32, further comprising an isolation layer formed around the inner electrical contact, the isolation layer being formed from insulating material.

(New) The integrated circuit of claim 3/2, wherein the inner plug is formed from conductive material.

09/25/2002 MBERHE

00000074 10004661

396.00 OP 252.00 OP







ÆTHOD AND STRUCTURE FOR IMPROVED ALIGNMENT TOLERANCE IN MULTIPLE.

SINGULARIZED PLUGS

Docket No.:

Examiner:

303.645US3

Filed:

December 4, 2001 Yennhu Huynh

Serial No.: 10/004,661

Due Date: N/A

Group Art Unit: 2813

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

We are transmitting herewith the following attached items (as indicated with an "X"):

A return postcard.

A Supplemental Preliminary Amendment (5 Pages).

 $\frac{\overline{X}}{X}$ A check in the amount of \$648.00 to cover the fee for additional claims as calculated below.

If an additional fee is required due to changes to the claims, the fee has been calculated as follows:

_		CL	AIMS AS AMENDE	D		
	(1) Claims Remaining After Amendment	,	(2) Highest Number Previously Paid For	(3) Present Extra	Rate	Fee
TOTAL CLAIMS	51	-	29	22	x 18 =	\$396.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	9	-	6	3	x 84 =	\$252.00
[] MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS PRESENTED						\$0.00
TOTAL						\$648.00

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for sufficient number of months to enter these papers and please charge any additional required fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.A.

P.O. Box 2938, Minneapolis, MN 55402 (612-373-6900)

Atty: Viet V. Tong Reg. No. 45,416

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this ____ day of <u>September</u>, 2002.

Name

Customer Number 21186

SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.A.

P.O. Box 2938, Minneapolis, MN 55402 (612-373-6900)

(GENERAL)